

they learned that early detection can be key to survival. When breast cancer is detected at the localized stage—confined to the primary site—the five year relative survival rate is 98.6%. As the stage of the cancer progresses, the relative survival rate drops.

This knowledge led the girls to film a public service announcement (PSA) urging mothers everywhere to have mammograms done—if not for themselves, for their daughters. The PSA has played for several months on several TV channels, and the girls have appeared on shows like *Good Day New York* to spread their message. Through their campaign, the girls of Troop 1701 are educating us all—men and women—about the importance of early detection.

I hosted the girls in my office after they reached out to me about the project. Let me tell you, these are impressive young citizens. They are incredibly passionate and smart, and they truly are making a difference, both in our home state of New Jersey and across the county. The girls have already heard from dozens of mothers—and others—who have scheduled their mammograms after seeing the PSA. A number of organizations, both national and local—the American Cancer Society and Meridian Health of New Jersey, to name a couple—have joined the girls on the initiative.

The girls have implemented their campaign in a number of creative ways. They held the inaugural “Jam for the Exam” Health Fair at their school, attracting 400 attendees who were able to meet with health professionals and learn valuable health tips. It was there that they launched their “Pinkie Promise” campaign, having mothers sign a banner, making a pinkie promise to their daughters that they will get their mammograms done.

The girls were recently honored at the annual Girl Scouts delegate meeting where—after presenting their PSA and receiving a standing ovation—they received their Bronze Award in front of the New Jersey Delegates. It is the highest honor a Junior Girl Scout can achieve. As a fellow scout—a boy scout and Eagle Scout—I know that these girls exemplify the scout traits of courage, confidence, character, and citizenship.

This coming March, the girls will receive a further honor when they receive The Girl Scouts of the Jersey Shore’s first-ever Junior Women of Distinction Award. The Woman of Distinction Award was traditionally reserved for adult women in the state and local community for making a positive impact.

The award is certainly well deserved, and these girls are just getting started. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking the girls of Girl Scout Troop 1701—Michelle Coyoti-Varela, Joyce Falotico, Morgan Fuerbacher, Jacqueline Hennessy, Adriana Poznanski, and Francesca Poznanski—for their truly impressive efforts in the fight against breast cancer. They are an inspiration to us all.

SPACE LAUNCH LIABILITY INDEMNIFICATION EXTENSION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 15, 2014

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Consolidated Appropriations Act

for fiscal year 2014. Like the budget compromise Congress approved last month, this bill takes an important step toward rolling back the devastating sequestration cuts that continue to hurt our constituents and have kept our economy from fully recovering. I applaud the House and Senate Appropriations Committees for their hard work in reaching a compromise on a spending bill that reinvests in some very important priorities that have recently been squeezed too tightly.

This bill fixes the ill-advised provision of the budget resolution that reduced cost of living adjustments for medically-retired military personnel. That’s a positive step and upholds our solemn commitment to those veterans, who have sacrificed for our security. I am also pleased that Federal Public Defenders will see a significant increase over last year’s budget. I will continue to work with my colleagues to ensure that these essential public servants have the resources they need to uphold the Sixth Amendment’s guarantee of counsel in a criminal trial. This bill also reinvests in Head Start, some nutrition assistance programs, the safety of our food and drug supply, and transportation infrastructure—all very important to building and supporting strong families and strong local economies.

As with any compromise legislation, there are also provisions in this bill that I do not support. Among other things, this bill seriously underfunds medical research by the NIH, environmental protection by the EPA, and legal aid programs, and it does not include reimbursements to rural counties under the PILT program. The bill also continues to infringe on the rights of women to control their own health care, and undermines public education through a voucher program.

Despite these shortcomings, this bill is the result of good-faith, bipartisan negotiations and it moves our economy forward. This collaborative process must become the norm in Congress, not the exception. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this compromise legislation.

CONGRATULATING BEVERLY ROBERTSON ON RECEIVING THE 2014 BE THE DREAM MLK LEGACY AWARD

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Beverly Robertson on receiving the 2014 Be the Dream MLK Legacy Award. This special award is given to those individuals whose lives have “embodied the spirit and legacy of service, sacrifice and hope” that characterized the work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As the President of the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee for the past 17 years, it is fitting that this award be bestowed upon Beverly Robertson in recognition of her accomplishments and contributions.

Beverly Robertson attended Memphis State University where she earned her BA degree in 1973. While there, she was active in the student body and became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, an organization well known for academic excellence, commitment

to service, and providing assistance and support in local communities throughout the world. In 2013, the College of Education, Health and Human Services Alumni Chapter inducted her into its Hall of Fame.

For 19 years, Mrs. Robertson worked in corporate America before starting a successful business with her husband, Howard. In 1997, she was selected to be president of the National Civil Rights Museum, which is housed in the transformed Lorraine Motel—the location of Dr. King’s tragic assassination. While she expressed concerns about her qualification for such a prestigious position, she pushed any doubts aside and said that she knows “how to treat people” and “how to manage a business.” With these and other skills will in hand, the museum, its visitors and the city of Memphis have been well-served under her leadership.

Under her 17-year tenure as president, from which she is now preparing for a much deserved retirement, Beverly was instrumental in elevating the museum to new heights. She oversaw two major renovation projects, which included a 12,800-square-foot addition dedicated to the examination of Dr. King’s assassination and the continuing struggle for civil rights, and a \$27 million renovation that is scheduled to open in March of 2014 and will add new exhibit space, more automation, state-of-the-art interactivity, an educational and cultural center, and a redesigned lobby. She has overseen 16 Freedom Awards programs honoring iconic leaders such as U.S. Presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter as well as other notable figures including Rosa Parks, the Dalai Lama, Oprah Winfrey, Elie Wiesel, and Nelson Mandela. As a result of her dedication, the museum is a strong, fiscally sound and national recognized organization.

Beverly Robertson has been a true visionary at the National Civil Rights Museum and while I congratulate her on her upcoming retirement, her presence at the museum will be missed. There is no doubt that her work is worthy of this award named after Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Beverly Robertson on being awarded the 2014 Be the Dream MLK Legacy Award.

CONGRATULATING JACKSON FINE

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 16, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Jackson Fine, a talented young man from Thousand Oaks, California, who was awarded a U.S. patent for his 3D imaging system. With only one percent of U.S. patents awarded to students 18 years or under, Jackson Fine is among a select group of young inventors who is already making a big impact in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

Jackson’s invention, which has come to be known as the “Iron Man” patent, is a system that allows for easy guidance and manipulation of holographic tools and objects within a 3D sensor grid. His invention can be used to conduct remote medical procedures, repair equipment on orbiting spacecraft, and enhance gaming and next generation computing.